**Chapter 23 Reading Questions American Pageant**

1. Explain the term “The Gilded Age” and tell where it originated.
2. What was the driving force behind Gilded Age politics?
3. Explain how corruption in government, especially as it related to big business, energized the public to demand reform. Specifically address at least two examples of corruption. What, if any, reforms were made?
4. Explain how racism and nativism were used to justify violence and policies of discrimination. Specifically address at least two examples.
5. Explain the role of the government’s “laissez faire” policy on the economy.
6. Explain at least two economic challenges the nation faced between 1865 and 1898.